

OBJECTIVE 30: CONTINUOUS, 24-HOUR STAFFING

OBJECTIVE

Demonstrate the capability to maintain staffing on a continuous, 24-hour basis through an actual shift change.

INTENT

This objective is derived from NUREG-0654 which provides that OROs should demonstrate the capability of continuous, 24-hour operations for a protracted period. (See evaluation criteria from Planning Standards A. and N.)

Emergency response activities for a commercial nuclear power plant emergency are likely to require response efforts over a time period of more than one day. Activities associated with the following essential emergency functions should be maintained around-the-clock: communications, direction and control of operations, alert and notification of the public, accident assessment, information for the public and media, radiological monitoring, protective response, and medical and public health support. Therefore, at least two shifts of key staff are needed for these functions. At the same time, the transition from one shift to the next should be carefully managed to maintain continuity of operations and exchange of information. Key staff include those emergency personnel necessary to carry out activities and functions.

DEMONSTRATION CRITERIA

NUREG

CRITERION

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| A.4. | 1. A shift change is demonstrated for all agencies responsible for providing continuous, 24-hour staffing. |
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Explanation

Responsible OROs should demonstrate the capability to provide a one-for-one replacement of personnel through at least one shift change for key staff responsible for: communications, direction and control of operations, alert and notification of the public, accident assessment, information for the public and media, radiological monitoring, protective response, and medical and public health support.

Extent of Play

Under this criterion, at least one complete shift change should be accomplished as it would be in an actual emergency. This shift change should take place no later than the midpoint of an exercise. This will permit replacement personnel to demonstrate that they can perform the functions of personnel from the previous shift.

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CRITERION

- A.4. 2. The transition from the outgoing shift to incoming shift is accomplished without discontinuity in operations. The incoming shift is knowledgeable and capable of demonstrating their emergency response functions.**

Explanation

Responsible OROs should demonstrate the capability to accomplish a shift change(s) with a transfer of responsibility to incoming personnel who are capable of performing the roles of the personnel they replace. Outgoing staff members should demonstrate the capability to brief their replacements on the current status of the simulated emergency. OROs should demonstrate the ability to continue emergency operations through the efforts of knowledgeable replacement personnel.

Extent of Play

Under this criterion, the outgoing shift should conduct a briefing for the incoming shift. The incoming shift should then assume responsibility for essential emergency functions and activities and perform the duties of those personnel they replace. Demonstration of this objective ceases when the shift change process is complete. However, performance of the incoming shift will be evaluated on an objective-by-objective basis for the remainder of the exercise. Performance of the replacement shift(s) on objectives for which they are responsible will provide part of the basis for evaluation of the ORO's performance on each objective.

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CRITERION

- N.1.a. 3. All activities described in the demonstration criteria for this objective are carried out in accordance with the plan, unless deviations are provided for in the extent-of-play agreement.**

Explanation

Responsible OROs should demonstrate the capability to follow policies, implement

procedures, and utilize equipment and facilities contained in the plans. OROs should demonstrate that they can follow sequences outlined in the various procedures and perform specified activities, as necessary.

Extent of Play

Under this criterion, all activities should be carried out as specified in the plan, unless deviation from the plan is provided for in the extent-of-play agreement.

CLARIFICATION OF TERMS

Direction and control refers to the management of emergency functions within a particular context (e.g., emergency operations center) through leadership and use of authority.

Essential emergency functions are communications, direction and control of operations, alert and notification of the public, accident assessment, information for the public and media, radiological monitoring, protective response, and medical and public health support.

Key staff refers to those emergency personnel, sufficient in numbers and functions, necessary to carry out emergency operations as required by scenario events and as set forth in emergency plans.

Monitoring refers to checking radiation levels, usually by counting ambient radiation.